



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor
John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
CHRISTIAN HERITAGE WEEK
November 23-29, 2003

WHEREAS, the preamble to the Constitution of the State of North Dakota states that, “We, the people of North Dakota, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, do ordain and establish this constitution”; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Franklin, at the Constitutional Convention in 1787 stated, “It is impossible to build an empire without our Father’s aid. I believe the sacred writings which say that, ‘Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it’” (Psalm 127:1); and

WHEREAS, George Washington enunciated: “animated alone by the pure spirit of Christianity, and conducting ourselves as the faithful subjects of our free government, we may enjoy every temporal and spiritual felicity”; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, wrote: “Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed the conviction that these liberties are the gift of God?” and

WHEREAS, James Madison, father of the U.S. Constitution, advocated: “the diffusion of the light of Christianity in our nation” in his Memorial and Remonstrance; and

WHEREAS, Patrick Henry quoted Proverbs 14:34 for our nation: “Righteousness alone can exalt a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people”; and

WHEREAS, George Mason, in his Virginia Declaration of Rights, forerunner to our U.S. Bill of Rights, affirmed: “That it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian forbearance, love and charity towards each other”; and

WHEREAS, these, and many other truly great men and women of America, leaders in the structuring of American history, were Christian statesmen of caliber and integrity who did not hesitate to express their faith; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 23-29, 2003, as **CHRISTIAN HERITAGE WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/
John Hoeven
Governor

Attest:

/s/
Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State